

versity of Glasgow, in undertaking to support the native catechist employed; and mention is likewise made of a grant by the Missionary Association of the University of Edinburgh, in connexion with the school at Vellore, established through the Christian zeal of the late Lieut. Cook. The Aberdeen Universities' Missionary Association have also renewed their grant of £15 for scholarships, to students attending the Madras Institution.

Bombay.—On 12th July 1853, Messrs. Wallace, Ferguson, and White were ordained to the office of the holy ministry, and set apart as missionaries of the Church in India. On their arrival there, they were enabled, after a short interval, to resume the classes of the institution.

The Church is deeply indebted to the Rev. Dr. Stevenson, and to the hearty co-operation of his colleague. Prompted by that missionary spirit he has so long cherished, Dr. Stevenson did not hesitate to undergo the labour and fatigue of conducting the Institution in the absence of all foreign aid; and by the help merely of a single assistant, and a few monitors, not only succeeded in keeping it alive, but in quickening it into greater vigour and efficiency. While, for many months, we had no missionary whatever at Bombay, his services were unsparingly given, in the midst of other duties by no means light or unimportant.

The Report contains an account of the affecting circumstances which have caused the return of Mr. Ferguson to this country for the present.

After paying a high tribute to the memory of the late Dr. Brunton,—long the convenor of the Committee,—it contains an appeal to more strenuous effort, which we do well to reiterate. Would, indeed, that the day of small things were ended, and the day of greater things begun! "Verily," in the words of the Report, "there is much land to be possessed; and still, while the millions of India, relieved from the oppression of native tyrants, by British arms, are groaning under a yoke the most oppressive, and a tyranny the most relentless, the iron of which is in every soul, does it become us to pray without ceasing and watch to the end, that in every province the cry may be heard: How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace, that saith unto Zion, The God reigneth!"

The revenue of this Scheme for the past year amounted to £5553, 1s. 9d. This sum shews an increase over the former year of £1405, 13s. 2d.; but it includes the munificent legacy of £1100 by the late Mr. Macfie. It is gratifying to notice that the expense of the Mission has been largely met by our countrymen abroad.

THE LATE DR. KITTO.—The Queen has been graciously pleased to grant a pension of £50 a year to the widow of the late Dr. Kitto, the well known author of many important Biblical works.

COLONIAL CHURCHES.

Appeal from the Vice-Convenor.

For upwards of twenty years the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, from a deepfelt interest in the spiritual welfare of our Colonial brethren, has been urging on the Church the duty of stirring up all its ministers and members to lend their aid in assisting our expatriated countrymen, who are suffering the evils arising from the want or irregular enjoyment of religious ordinances.

Since the date of their last Report to the General Assembly, the following ministers have been sent out to British North America:—The Rev. Robert Stevenson; the Rev. Peter Keay; the Rev. Duncan Anderson; the Rev. George Harper. The Rev. George McCulloch has also been appointed to the church and parish of St. Saviour's British Guiana.

The Committee have expended between £2000 and £3000 in paying the outfit and passage-money of the different ministers sent out—in augmenting the stipends of ministers and missionaries already in the Colonies—in contributing to the building of additional churches—and in continuing their allowance to Queen's College, Canada, which is now in a flourishing condition, and is beginning, to some extent, to supply the want of ministers, so much felt in British North America.

The peculiar wants and character of the Colonists have become more fully developed during the long and affectionate intercourse which the Colonial Committee have had with them; and the result of that intercourse is, a growing conviction of the importance of the Colonial Mission, as affecting not only the highest interests of the Colonists themselves, but also the responsibility of the ministers of our Church to do what in them lies to send the light of truth, and the blessings of religious ordinances, to our kinsmen who are perishing for lack of knowledge.

And these kinsmen, let it be born in mind, are alive to the necessity and value of religious instruction. Year after year many a loud cry for aid has reached your Committee, clothed in language which spoke strongly and affectingly of the remembrance of former days in our own favoured land, when those exiles went, with their friends and families, "to the house of God, with the voice of joy and praise, with a multitude that kept holyday;" and of the contrast which their present situation presents, having no sanctuary to repair to, no pastor to whose instructions they can listen, and no meeting of the saints in which they can hold sweet fellowship with one another, and offer their prayers and praises to one common God and Saviour.

The Colonial Committee have been privileged to do something towards supplying those wants from time to time; but much yet remains to be done. The want of labourers for the Colonial vineyard is still painfully felt; and the Committee would again earnestly call upon the ministers and licentiates of the Church to come forward and

offer themselves for this honourable and, in many respects, interesting and attractive work.

DAVID ARNOT, D. D.,
Vice-Convenor.

Riccarton Parochial Association.

The present is the fifth annual report of the Riccarton Parochial Association, which was originally instituted with the view of supporting the Schemes of the Church of Scotland. These Schemes embrace a wide field of Christian usefulness, and are entitled to the countenance and support of the members of our Church. Three of them are restricted in their operation to our own country,—namely, the Education Scheme, the Endowment Scheme, and the Home Mission; while the other three have for their object the Christianization of India, the Extension of the Gospel to the British Colonies, and the Conversion of the ancient people of God. Success has attended the exertions of the Church of Scotland in all those fields of missionary enterprise; and, under the grace of God, it is hoped our Church will never evince symptoms of spiritual decay by ceasing to persevere in her evangelistic efforts. Christianity is essentially diffusive. "Freely ye have received, freely give." The duty of propagating the Gospel rests upon all who are in covenant with God; and so far from seeking to be released from that holy obligation, they will hail with gladness every opportunity which is afforded them to discharge it. The parent who has in faith received the truth as it is in Christ, feels that necessity is laid upon him to train up his family in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; the government which appreciates the excellence of the Christian religion, and recognizes its power to promote the righteousness which exalteth a nation, will use its influence to extend the blessings of salvation among the people; and the Church which is rich in the possession of the treasures of divine wisdom and knowledge, and sanctified by the grace of the Holy Ghost, will labour incessantly to make God's way known upon the earth, and His saving health among all nations. As every member of the Church prays daily, "Thy kingdom come," so let him aspire to act in the spirit of his petition, and bear him in mind the words of the apostle, "For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also."

It is gratifying to find, that the collections made in this parish for religious objects, for the year 1854, shew symptoms of growing vitality. May the little one become a thousand, and the small one a strong nation! It is also gratifying to state, that the contributions raised by the Parochial Association have not had the effect of diminishing the collections which are made at the church-doors, in support of the Schemes of the Church of Scotland. Thanks are returned to all the contributors for their interest in the Association, and especially to the collectors for their labour of love in the noblest and best of causes.

The sums contributed to the Riccarton Parochial Association for 1854 amount, in all, to £22, 18s. 6d., which, after deducting 18s. 6d. for printing, leaves a balance of £22, which has been allocated by the Minister and Kirk-session as follows:—

Education Scheme,	£1	0	0
India Mission,	4	0	0
Home Mission Scheme,	4	0	0
Colonial Scheme,	4	0	0
Jew's Conversion Scheme,	2	0	0
Endowment Scheme,	4	0	0
	£22	0	0